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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Applicant(s):** Takashi Ootawara, et al.

**Examiner:** John P. Leubecker

**Serial No:** 10/017,743

**Art Unit:** 3739

**Filed:** December 14, 2001

**Docket:** 15163

**For:** ENDOSCOPE AND ENDOSCOPE  
SYSTEM THEREOF

**Dated:** October 16, 2003

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Sir:

Pursuant to the restriction requirement imposed in the Official Action dated September 26, 2003, Applicants elect the claims of Group I, i.e., Claims 1-124, for continued prosecution herein.

Claims 1-135 are present in the above-captioned application and have been subjected to restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121. Specifically, the Official Action avers that the following inventions are present in the claims:

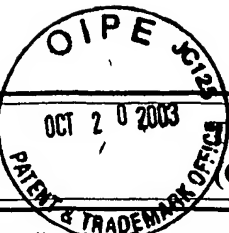
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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on October 16, 2003.

Dated: October 16, 2003

  
Thomas Spinelli



3739

<b>TRANSMITTAL LETTER</b> (General - Patent Pending)	Docket No. <b>15163</b>
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In Re Application Of: **Takashi Ootawara, et al.**

Serial No. <b>10/017,743</b>	Filing Date <b>December 14, 2001</b>	Examiner <b>John P. Leubecker</b>	Group Art Unit <b>3739</b>
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Title: **ENDOSCOPE AND ENDOSCOPE SYSTEM THEREOF**

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Transmitted herewith is: **RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

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in the above identified application.

- ☒ No additional fee is required.
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- ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. **19-1013/SSMP** as described below.
  - ☐ Charge the amount of \_\_\_\_\_
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Dated: **October 16, 2003**

**Thomas Spinelli**  
**Registration No.: 39,533**  
  
**Customer Number: 23389**

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<b>Thomas Spinelli</b>

cc: